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My Human Mother

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My name is Noir, as far as "aliens" go by, I am called a Dragon, just that, my wings are wide enough to shade the forest, as sharp as they can cut through the thickest trees, like my siblings I breathe fire of a dark black.

My earliest memories are hazy, I can remember, giggling, excited giggling, as if a joyous occasion was happening, I wanted to see it, so I broke out of my shell.

The light was bright, I cried out in pain as my eyes adapted to the sudden brightness outside of my egg, and there she was, my Human. I was not alone, I could hear the cries of my siblings around me.

I remember gentle hands lifting me and my siblings to her arms as she gently placed her finger on our noses, bestowing us our greatest gifts, our names. Noir, Scarlet, Azure, Sage, and Snow. I remember her smile, despite the bright light I could see that warming smile.

The next memories were rather fun as I remember her, Every few hours for weeks she would check on us in a basket, she fed us milk in a bowl, and gave us scraps of cooked meat. I remember Scarlet and Azure fighting over the fatty cuts, our Mother would scold us saying we should share, and that there was more than enough for all of us.

When we got bigger, I could clearly see our mother, she was not like us, no razor sharp claws, no horns, no wings, she was a Human. But she loved us like we were her children. Everyday she taught us to stretch our wings, and when we could breathe fire she gave us new rules, NO FIRE IN THE HOUSE, except for lighting the stove which me and my siblings would fight over, since we all wanted to be useful to Mother.

I remember wintertime, Mother would prepare 5 bowls of warm milk for us, and we would all cuddle in a neat pile over the fireplace as we napped with a warm belly of milk and each other's warm, our mother in the middle huddled in a blanket.

Spring was wonderful, the flowers were fully blooming and Sage would always fight us when we stepped over the flower fields by accident. Our mother taught us a lot, never take more than what you need, leave some for others, and respect the laws of nature.

She would gather honey from the bees, I would personally volunteer to smoke them out of their hive as she went in to collect that sweet honey, which she would drizzle over pancakes for us to eat. I remember her scolding Snow for her sloppy table manners, having bits of pancakes and honey all over her mouth, Our mother wiping it away telling her that the beautiful white scales might be stained if she doesn't eat properly.

Summer was hot, very hot, I found myself sleeping in the shade of trees more often than I would like to admit, every season we got bigger, I remember mother bringing us to the largest lake, we would swim all day. Mother would take turns riding our backs as we paddled around like puppies.

When we were too big to live in the house Mother taught us that we either lived in caves or ruins naturally. So we each took a corner of the forest, I took the Blackwood Forest, the trees there were perfect to hide in for me, and it was the only safe entrance to the forest. My sister Scarlet took the Redwoods, saying their large height was perfect for climbing despite her large size. Azure watched over the lakes and rivers, he would always be caught sleeping underneath the water's surface. Snow on the other hand lived a bit more secluded, she lived on the Ice peaks just south of where I lived.

But everyday we would fly down to Mother, to visit her, and enjoy her treats that she always prepared for us. Those were good times for us.

But they would not last. One day Azure came to visit mother before us, and he found her collapsed on the floor. He called us, His roar of panic echoed throughout the forest, Waking us from our daily slumber. We rushed, trees uprooted from our speed as we rushed to our Mother.

I was then hit with the realization that our Human mother was not long lived as my race. In fact to my race, the Human lifespan was just a moment compared to how long me and my siblings will live.

Azure and I took mother and searched beyond the forest, There we saw a forest of Metal, and when we landed we were surrounded by other humans, all carrying weird sticks and pointing them at us, Azure shouted at them, saying that our mother was dying, and we sought their help. Suddenly a human dressed in white came to us asking to see her, Azure put her down into their care as they carted her off, Azure told me to stay as he flew back to tell the others. I stayed in the forest of metal for a few days.

The forest of metal was called a "city" and was home to other species besides my mother's, and everyday some of these "soldiers" would come to me for questions, I answered them as best as I could from "can you breathe fire" or "do you eat raw or cooked meat" and other such mundane questions. And every time they asked if I had a questions I would always ask if my mother will be alright. The soldiers would be awkwardly quiet saying they do not know.

One day the person in white came back, and told me news that I wish I never heard. "Your mother is dying, I am sorry" she spoke, kneeling before me. I wanted to burn her, she must be lying, but before my dark flames reached my throat Snow clasped my jaw shut and simply said "no, Mother would not like it, brother" as I flew off in a rage, roaring loudly as I returned to my section of the forest.

for the next few weeks I breathed my dark flame to the sky, turning it black, It cannot happen, It will not happen, Mother is strong like us, she raised us from hatchlings, she taught us, she loved us, she cannot possibly leave us!! These thoughts festered in my mind, Scarlet came to me one day saying Mother has passed.

My heart sank. My mother, my Human mother was gone, and I, her son, was not there on her deathbed to say goodbye? I snapped, I attacked Scarlet. Our brawl of Red and Black flames, Razor claws and teeth destroyed half of my forest. Scarlet defeated me, I was battered, broken, and crying like a newborn at the end of our fight. She grabbed me and flew us to her burial. I was there, weeping, I saw her coffin, I saw my siblings surrounding it. I saw a human priest tell us to cherish our memories with her, to remember her as who she was to us, to keep in our hearts the lessons she taught us, and to make sure we pass on those lessons. I remembered the words "She will not Truly die, so long as you remember her".

Those words gave me hope. After her burial near her home, My siblings and I looked at each other quietly and quietly agreed. We all gathered just above the gravestone. And what the priest, soldiers, and doctors saw would forever immortalize our love for our mother. We each breathed with all our strength our strongest fire, Each fire was in the color of our scales, and they each mixed into a spiral of different colors, reaching as far into the sky as we could see.

After that our forest was deemed a protected zone, but no outpost or observatory was placed near our home, it was OUR home, OUR mothers home, and we would protect it. We did however allow people to visit and observe our home, to enjoy the beauty we shared with our mother all our lives. Everything in that forest was under our protection.

Every year the forest would be closed off for one month, at the end of the month, People in the city would catch a glimpse of a pillar of fire, of mixing colors in an endless spiral into the night sky. It was me and my siblings. We do this in remembrance of our Mother. Our Human Mother, who loved us unconditionally, now we seek to share this love with all who visit our humble home.